



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - November 15, 2002

- ***In the West***, cool weather favors autumn fieldwork, following a period of highly beneficial precipitation. Although recent soil moisture improvements are aiding ***Northwestern*** winter wheat, more precipitation is needed to ensure proper autumn establishment.
- ***On the Plains***, cool, unsettled weather is slowing winter wheat development and hampering final summer crop harvesting. Across the ***northern and central High Plains***, light rain and snow showers are boosting soil moisture reserves for wheat establishment.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, widespread precipitation (rain and wet snow) is slowing final summer crop harvesting in the ***Ohio Valley***, but cool, dry weather prevails elsewhere in the ***Midwest***.
- ***In the South***, showers are causing some renewed fieldwork delays from the ***lower Mississippi Valley northward into the Tennessee Valley***. Cotton harvesting in the ***Delta States*** typically nears completion by mid-November, but one-quarter to one-third of the crop currently remains in the field.

Outlook: A developing storm system will track northward along the ***East Coast*** during the weekend, bringing widespread rainfall to the ***Atlantic Coast States***. Snow is possible across the ***interior Northeast*** and rain will likely change to snow in the ***central Appalachians***. In the storm's wake, unseasonably cold weather will affect areas as far south as the ***Gulf Coast States***. Elsewhere, dry, warmer weather will prevail across the ***Plains and Southwest***, while scattered showers are possible in the ***Pacific Northwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 20-24 calls for below-normal precipitation for much of the Nation, except for wet weather in ***Washington and Maine***. Warmer-than-normal weather is expected across the ***western half of the U.S.*** and the ***Midwest***, while below-normal temperatures are forecast in the ***eastern Gulf Coast and southern Atlantic States***.

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